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7-8-1975

### News Release - 1975-07-08

E. De la Garza

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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D.C. 20515**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

8 July 1975

WASHINGTON, D C -- Rep Kika de la Garza called today for enactment of legislation extending coverage of the emergency loan program of the Farmers Home Administration.

The legislation backed by the South Texas Congressman permits emergency loans to be made available not only to cover the actual loss sustained by an applicant for a loan but also to give consideration to his need to obtain credit for continuing production. Loans for financing future operations could be made available for as long as 20 years.

"The bill also would simplify Farmers Home Administration procedures in dealing with the effects of natural disasters," Rep de la Garza said in a statement in the House of Representatives. "It eliminates the requirement in existing law that there be shown a general need for agricultural credit in an area before it can qualify for assistance."

The bill makes benefits of the loan program available to persons engaged in aquaculture, such as shrimp and oyster producers, and fish farmers.

"These occupations are essential to the economy of my district," the Congressman said, "and, of course, to other coastal areas of the United States. The U S fishing industry faces many grave problems. Emergency loans to producers suffering losses because of natural disaster will help to meet one of them."

Rep de la Garza is the ranking majority member of the House Agriculture Committee, which favorably reported the emergency loan extension to the full House.